

October 2, 2023

Dear School District Superintendent:

The Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC) is pleased to announce the upcoming 2024 Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA), sponsored by the Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division. The 2024 PNA will be the twelfth time that the survey is conducted in Wyoming and WYSAC will continue the tradition of providing our state, its counties, and its school districts with high-quality information to aid decision making.

The PNA focuses on youth substance use, abuse, and underlying contributing factors. The information from the PNA can be used by your district, schools, and community to identify strengths and weaknesses which help with planning and applying for funding. The survey is administered every two years, in hopes of reaching every Wyoming student in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12.

As of this year, there are two versions of the survey: one for middle school (grades 6 and 8) and one for high school (grades 10 and 12). The middle school version no longer has questions about hard drugs and now has questions about experiences that affect health and learning, such as hours of sleep and screen time. The high school version maintains the questions about hard drugs and now includes detailed questions about the misuse of prescription drugs such as Adderall and Vicodin.

We urge the schools to consider the online version this year: easier and faster to administrate and evaluate, less paper and supplies, no return shipping, and allows the survey to be taken in Spanish for those that need that accommodation.

With your help, we can make 2024 the best year in the more than 20+ years of collecting this information.

As soon as you complete the form, then the PNA team will begin setting up the survey in your schools.

Sincerely,

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Eric L. Canen, MS Senior Research Scientist Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center at the University of Wyoming